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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification, in particular, the third paragraph starting on line 20 of page 7 of the application as follows:

Referring to FIG. 1, there is shown packet based communication network 100 having various access hosts (102, 104) at its edge. Hosts 102 and 104 are communication equipment that receive, transmit and process information that are destined for subscribers or destined for some node in the network. Hosts 102 and 104 are equipment that serve as interfaces between the access network and the core network. Examples of equipment represented by hosts 102 and 104 include Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer (DSLAM) and Access Concentrators. Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) 118 and 112 are coupled to hosts 104 and 106 102 and 104 respectively via access links 106 and 108.

